

## **GETTING THE VEHICLES ON THE ROAD**

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**and**  
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The Office of Technology Utilization within the Office of Transportation Technologies has the lead responsibility to set utilization goals and promote the introduction of and commercialization of alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles to reduce oil consumption, improve air quality, and promote economic development.

During and following successful technology development by industry and government, and in coordination with our partners, stakeholders, and customers, this program provides the catalyst needed to establish a public understanding and resulting market demand for alternative fuel vehicles, advanced technology vehicles, and advanced fuels, and to establish a strong and far-reaching fuel and service infrastructure. The program is designed to provide support at critical periods in the transition of advanced transportation technologies from the laboratory to the marketplace, and then reduce support as market niches are established and are on track to achieve their full potential.

Achieving this objective will require the establishment of sustainable alternative fuel and vehicle production industries and extensive private sector investment in supporting infrastructure. Markets for the products of these industries will be based on the confidence of consumers in the performance, reliability, cost effectiveness, and other characteristics of those products. This program is about building that confidence by weaving together a variety of activities in response to customer needs. The program will:

- ✓ Forge partnerships, primarily through the Clean Cities program, with fleet owners, fuel providers, vehicle manufacturers, and State and local governments to expand the use of alternative fuel vehicles and the development of refueling infrastructure.
- ✓ Provide current, accurate, reliable information on all types of alternative fuels and vehicles.
- ✓ Perform rigorous, structured programs to test and evaluate alternative fuel vehicles.
- ✓ Certify technical training for mechanics who will maintain alternative fuel vehicles.

- ✓ Implement the requirements of the Energy Policy Act.
- ✓ Promote consumer acceptance of advanced technology vehicles with two times and three times conventional vehicle fuel economy.

The Office works closely with the technology development groups on the development of utilization strategies for each transportation technology under development. Currently, the office is structured in teams focusing on Clean Cities, Energy Policy Act programs, and Fleet Testing/Evaluation.